

MESSAGE

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

~~TOP SECRET~~
PRIORITY

FROM: USCINCEUR PARIS FRANCE

TO: CJCS WASH DC

NR: ECJCIBT 9-10678

DECLASSIFIED BY:
JCS DECLASSIFICATION BRANCH
DATE 25 JUL 1982

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Reference: "Part Two". Paragraph 2(H). SECRET
EC 9-2195, dated 18 April 1959.

Subject: Single Commander for Berlin (S).

This message forwards a LIVE OAK letter subject: "Single Commander for Berlin (S)", signed by General Lauris Norstad to Chairman, United States Joint Chiefs of Staff; Chief of Defense Staff, United Kingdom, and Chief of Staff of National Defense, France, dated 22 August 1960. General Norstad's letter is quoted as follows:

"Headquarters
United States European Command
Office of the Commander in Chief

Subject: Single Commander for Berlin (S) 22 August 1960

To: Chairman, United States Joint Chiefs of Staff
Chief of Defense Staff, United Kingdom
Chief of Staff of National Defense, France

1. You will recall that in my letter of 18 April 1959 on the subject of "Berlin Contingency Planning - Quiet Precautionary Military Measures," I recommend that a single commander for Berlin be designated. However, as a result of certain representation made to me, I decided not to pursue this matter further at that time.

2. In view of the current risk of further deterioration in the Berlin situation with little or no warning, I am now of the opinion that a single commander should be designated. In order not to detract from the prestige of the other two commandants nor unnecessarily provoke the Soviets, this delegation should be closely guarded.

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3. Subject to your approval, I propose naming the United States commandant the single commander responsible to me. I propose to inform him of the designation with the proviso that he take no executive action until such time as I deem it appropriate. I will inform you of any instruction I issue in this regard. The knowledge of this designation will be restricted to the Allied commandants in Berlin, the Commander in Chief, French Forces in Germany, the Commander in Chief, British Army of the Rhine and Commander in Chief, United States Army, Europe.

/s/ Lauris Norstad
General USAF)

ACTION: CJCS

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